

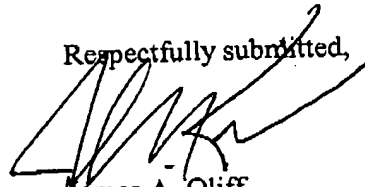
REMARKS

Claims 1-48 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, Claims 25-48 are canceled. No new matter is added.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application complies with all the requirements of the PPH Pilot Program. Specifically, all the claims in the U.S. Application are essentially the same as those allowed by the Japanese Patent Office.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

John S. Kern
Registration No. 42,719

JAO:JSK/dxc

Date: February 9, 2007

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, Virginia 22320
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE AUTHORIZATION Please grant any extension necessary for entry; Charge any fee due to our Deposit Account No. 15-0461
--